

AMENDMENT**A. In the Claims**

Please amend claims 38, 47, 53, and 54 as follows:

Claims 1-37 (cancelled).

Claim 38 (currently amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule or the complement thereof, wherein the molecule encodes an amino acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:20 or SEQ ID NO:22, or conservative amino acid variants thereof, wherein:

- a. binding interaction of the encoded amino acid sequence with PTP PEST is disrupted as compared to binding interaction of an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:18 with PTP PEST; and
- b. binding interaction of the encoded amino acid sequence is maintained with CD2 as compared to binding interaction of an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:18 with CD2.

Claims 39-40 (cancelled).

Claim 41 (original): The molecule of claim 38, wherein the molecule encodes an amino acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:22.

Claim 42 (original): The molecule of claim 38, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:21.

Claim 43 (original): An expression construct comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 38 operably linked to an expression control sequence.

Claim 44 (original): The expression construct of claim 43, further defined as a plasmid expression vector or a viral expression vector.

Claim 45 (original): A host cell transformed or transfected with the expression construct of claim 43, or a progeny of the cell.

Claim 46 (original): The host cell of claim 45, further defined as a bacterial cell, a mammalian cell, or a human cell.

Claim 47 (currently amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at least ~~about~~ 20 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:18, including: (a) nucleotide 688 wherein the G is replaced by an A; (b) nucleotide 748 wherein the G is replaced by a C; or both (a) and (b).

Claim 48 (original): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 47, wherein the nucleotide corresponding to nucleotide 688 of SEQ ID NO:18 is located at the 5' end of the molecule.

Claim 49 (original): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 47, wherein the nucleotide corresponding to nucleotide 688 of SEQ ID NO:18 is located at the 3' end of the molecule.

Claim 50 (original): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 47, wherein the nucleotide corresponding to nucleotide 748 of SEQ ID NO:18 is located at the 5' end of the molecule.

Claim 51 (original): The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 47, wherein the nucleotide corresponding to nucleotide 748 of SEQ ID NO:18 is located at the 3' end of the molecule.

Claim 52 (original): An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the complement of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 47.

Claim 53 (previously amended): An array of nucleic acid molecules attached to a solid support, the array comprising an oligonucleotide that will hybridize to the nucleic acid molecule of claim

47, under conditions in which the oligonucleotide will not substantially hybridize to the corresponding region of a nucleic acid molecule consisting of SEQ ID NO:18.

Claim 54 (currently amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule or the complete complement thereof, wherein said molecule encodes an amino acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:22.

Claim 55 (previously added): The molecule of claim 54, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:21.

Claim 56 (previously added): An expression construct comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 54.

Claim 57 (previously added): The expression construct of claim 56, further defined as a plasmid expression vector or a viral expression vector.

Claim 58 (previously added): A host cell transformed or transfected with the expression construct of claim 56.

Claim 59 (previously added): The host cell of claim 58, further defined as a bacterial cell, a mammalian cell, or a human cell.